



KNOCK, KNOCK! WHO'S THERE? MAYBE THE RESTLESS SPIRIT OF ADMINISTRATION OF ANY MURDERED MAN AS WE INVESTIGATE THE MYSTERIOUS "ROCHESTER" RAPPINGS" IN THIS EDITION OF ...

### CREEPY'S LOATHSOME LORE!

MODERN SPIRITUALISM HAD ITS BEGINNING IN
1848 WHEN THE JOHN D. FOX HOUSE IN HYDESVILLE,
N.Y. PRODUCED RAPPING NOISES WITHIN ITS AGING
WOODEN WALLS. RATHER THAN BE FRIGHTENED, THE
FAMILY TRIED TO MAKE CONTACT WITH THEIR
UNSEEN VISITOR...



THROUGH A YES-NO SYSTEM OF KNOCKS AND SILENCES, THE PRESENCE UNRAVELED THE STORY OF ITS OWN MURDER, BEING A PEDDLER ATTACKED BY A PREVIOUS TENANT. THE STORY WAS GIVEN CREDENCE SINCE THE PAST WINTER A PEDDLER HAD GONE TO THE HOUSE, PROMISING TO RETURN, AND WAS NEVER SEEN AGAIN...



THE EERIE SPIRIT EVENTUALLY LEAD THEM TO THE CELLAR OF THE HOUSE WHERE INTENSIVE DIGGING FOR ITS CORPSE FOUND ONLY WATER SEEPAGE, BUT CLOSE INVESTIGATION REVEALED BITS OF HUMAN HAIR, BONES AND TEETH AMIDST THE SEEPAGE!



RATHER THAN PURSUE THE WEIRD HAPPENINGS FURTHER THE FOXES MOVED TO ROCHESTER ONLY TO BE FURTHER PLAGUED BY RAPPINGS IN THE WALL. COMMUNICATION WITH UNSEEN SPIRITS BECAME POPULAR AND NEW MEDIUMS AND CIRCLES SPRANG UP, PRODUCING GREAT INTEREST IN SPIRITUALISM.



ART BY JOHN SEVERIN/SCRIPT BY RON PARKER



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LETTERING: Ben Oda

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Ghostly goings-on in this month's chronicle of horror happenings ....



Edgar Allan Poe leaps back into our pages with a startling study in

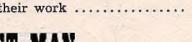




Witchcraft and politics prove to be an inflammatory mixture ......



Jacques and Pierre grow rich on plague victims, but become caught up in their work .....



A weird operation threatens to make a monkey out of a carnival prize fighter ......



Join a medieval Duke who attempts to outwit a demon .....



Crawling, consuming terror ships out on an ocean freighter ......







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## DEAR UNCLE



What happened in issue No. 10? The pages in "Monster" were all mixed up. You made a big boo-boo. Try to do better, okay? I thought "Into the Tomb" was the best story in this issue, although "Monster" would have been the best if you hadn't gotten the pages mixed-up. How could you let such a thing happen? Wesley Steinke Winnipeg, Canada

Most of you MERRY MANIACS howled about "Monster." Finally, we came up with a fear fable so frightening even our printer got shook... So much so that they got the pages out of order. For those of you still trying to figure it out, read the last three pages in this order: 29, 28, and 27.—UC

I just wanted to compliment you on the outstanding contribution most of your stories and art have made to the comic book field. You have truly upgraded the level of story and plot plus the added ingredient of excellent art by a staff of wonderfully talented and high-ly imaginative artists. I really look forward to seeing more of Poe's works given the added touch of realism with a threedimensional feeling by your gifted staff of artists. And I enjoy no less the new creative efforts of the writers. . . . I think you've got a winning team effort.

Robert Troke Inglewood, California

Some team effort! Ghoulish Goodwin runs off for a week's vacation and doesn't even do my CREEPY FAN CLUB page for this issue....It's the last time I let him have that long

a chain! But don't worry, next issue he'll be back on the rack with a club page!—UC

Issue 10 had only one welldrawn story, that being "Thing of Darkness." The others for the most part were well written and badly drawn. But what I want to talk about is the CREEPY line. . . The Creepy line I want to talk about is, at this moment, unwritten. One half of this line is a detec-tive magazine which features Sherlock Holmes, Ellery Queen, Father Brown, Nayland Smith, the Green Hornet, etc. Its writers are Archie Goodwin, Stan Lee, Gardner Fox and John Broome. Its artists are Gray Morrow, Angelo Torres, Al Williamson, Wallace Wood, Carmine Infantino, and Ken Bald. The other half is the Doc Savage magazine featuring Doc and his five assistants. It's written by Kenneth Robeson and adapted by Archie Goodwin. The artist is either Ken Bald or Gene Colan. Robert Caldwell

Baltimore, Maryland

Thanks for the suggestions, Bob, but I think you're hand-ing us a "line"! Besides that, you've left every demon drafts-man in the dungeon except jolting Gene Colan in tears. . . . FOR SHAME!—UC

Your mag is too much. I just finished reading CREEPY No. 10, the best yet. Of course the cover by Frazetta was fab as usual, by itself worth the price of the magazine. Each of the stories has that de-lightful ending so typical of CREEPY. I especially liked "Brain Trust," "Backfire," and "Thung of Parkness" "Thing of Darkness." . . . The art was great on all of them too, though I sure missed Reed Crandall this issue. . . .

Doug Rubb Spring Valley, Minnesota

Ripping Reed strikes back this issue, Doug, with "Hop-Frog" on page 5.—UC

CREEPY No. 10 was fabulous all the way through. I espe-cially liked "Brain Trust." "Midnight Sail" was great. Besides being a gifted artist, Mr. Taycee is a great author "Collector's Item" was wonder-ful, too. Steve Ditko was the only logical artist to handle it. The "Monster" story was excellent, both in artwork and plot. "Into the Tomb," and "Backfire," also, were just beautiful. . . Keep plenty of stark horror, but concentrate on plots, too.

Richard Leach East Holden, Maine I'm concentrating on a plot, Dick... A cemetery plot for my fat cousin if he doesn't quit calling me "Skindome" like he did in issue 5 of his wretched rag!—UC

As a high school student with a 4-point average, I shouldn't read your magazine, but I can't help it! CREEPY and EERIE are so far superior to any of those other hypersensational monster trash rags that there can be no comparison drawn. The success of your magazines must stem from the high quality of the stories and the excellence of the artwork. My congratulations to Mr. Warren on his great publications and my best wishes to UNCLE CREEPY, who looks to be in the best of health. I hope you two keep up the good work in bringing the public such excellent entertainment.

Larry McKenzie Guthrie, Oklahoma

Glad you noticed how healthy l look, Larry. . . . Not over-weight like a certain FAT fiend I won't mention!—UC

.. All in all, No. 10 was terrible. No werewolves, none of the old monsters! If No. 11 is like No. 10, you may as well hand over the title of "horri-blest" to COUSIN EERIE! Remember when you're writing your scripts to put in some oldies such as werewolves, vampires, etc. After all, THERE ARE NO MONSTERS LIKE OLD MONSTERS!

Mark Christie Welch, West Virginia

Aw, com'n, Mark! The mummy in "Into the Tomb" was 4000 years old.... How much older a monster do you want?—UC

Issue No. 10 had the best cover I've seen on CREEPY. I noticed that Frank Frazetta didn't sign the picture. ... "Brain Trust" was O.K. The ending was sharp. "Into the Tomb" was an improvement but I had had to read the prologue twice to understand it. Another thing, the fire on Horuta didn't look much like fire. Joe Orlando should watch matches more closely. . . . . "Backfire" was the best story this issue. Gray Morrow's art was excellent. "Thing of Darkness" was good but not too exciting. Eugene Colan shows the emotions of the characters excellently. Next to "Backfire," "Collector's Edition" was the best. I have two questions about What were the eyes at the bottom of the page for? My brother and I had an argument. I say Danforth's wife split his head and my

brother said she cut it off. Please tell me who is right. Gary Heslin Tampa, Florida

Frenzied Frank's signature got buried in the shadows on the tombstone. Since "Collector's Edition" is actually a story being told by a dying man, Stunning Steve Ditko came up with the ingenious device of the eyes to indicate what's happening to Danforth as he remembers each part of the story. It's a slow motion ver-sion of what you see on page 60, panel 8. And if you must dwell on (Choke!) gory details, Gary, you're the one who's right, although it's not essen-tial to the enjoyment of the story.—UC

In some early issues you claim to have the world's greatest comic artists. I beg to differ. I suggest you get one or all of the following: Joe Kubert, Murphy Anderson, and Carmine Infantino. Mitch Sweda

Chicago, Illinois

We still think they're the world's greatest, Mitch. . . . But not ALL of the greatest. -UC

CREEPY No. 10 was a tiptop rated magazine with me. Frank's cover was great and had flying colors. This was a cover I like to see on a magazine, and yours is the greatest. The best story of the issue was "Midnight Sail" in my opinion. . . . Now, if you can stop me, I would like to ask a question: Will you ever feature a classic horror like Dracula or the Mummy in CREEPY?

Arnold Couch Brasstown, North Carolina

Comic versions of Dracula and the Mummy have appeared in Warren's MONSTER WORLD, Arnold, and you might also check out "The Coffin of Dracula" featured in CREEPY 8 & 9.—UC

great, but my favorites are Frank Frazetta (I like the way he signs his name, too), Joe Orlando, and Gray Morrow. Whoops! I forgot to mention Angelo Torres. Your new artist, All your artists are Rocco Mastroserio, is good, too.

Tom Tharrington Big Pine Key, Florida

Want to write us? Address your poison pen letters to: CREEPY LETTERS, Dept. 11. 420 Lexington Avenue

New York, New York 10017

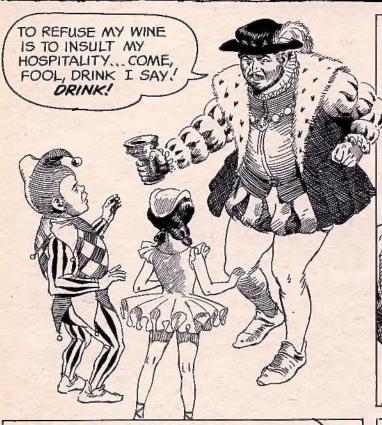
ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, FIENDISH FANS... YOUR PLEAS, SCREAMS, AND THREATS HAVE NOT BEEN IGNORED! FOR THE PAST COUPLE OF ISSUES WE'VE BEEN NEGLECTING A FEATURE DEAR TO EVERYONE'S HEARTS (THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE A HEART)... THE CREEPY CLASSIC! SO LET'S IMMEDIATELY HOP BACK INTO THE SCREAM-STREAM WITH THE WEIRD WONDER OF EDGAR ALLAN POE'S...

### Hop - Frog !









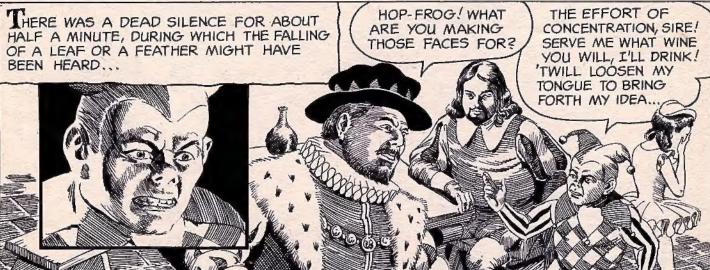




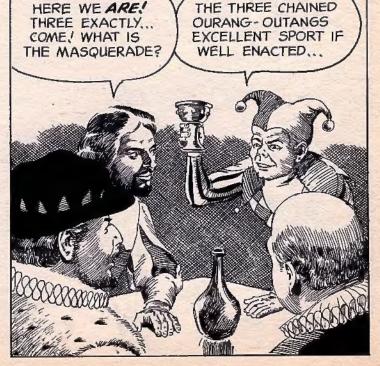






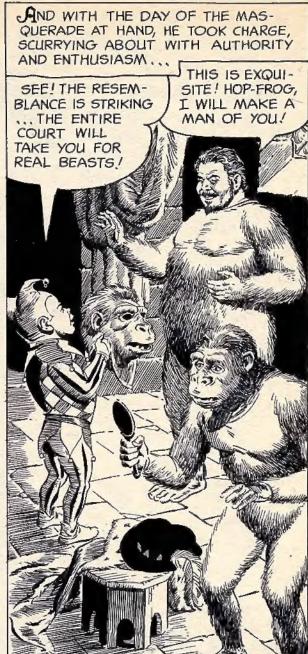




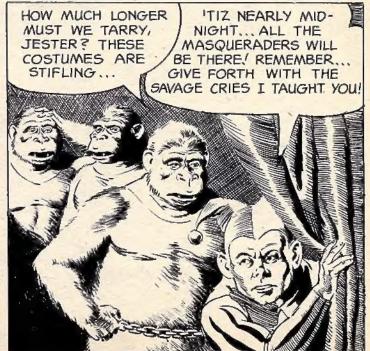




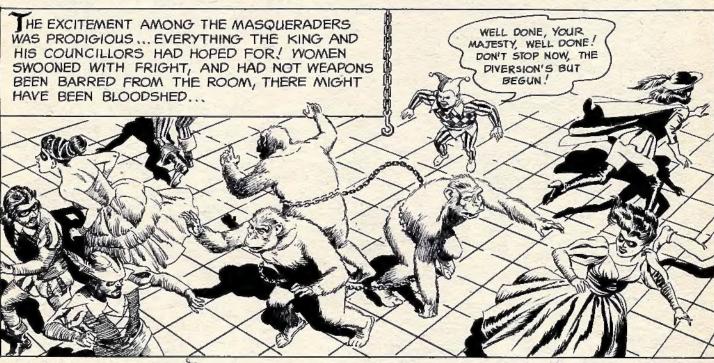












As the ourang-outangs frolic, the DWARF GRASP THEIR CHAIN AT ITS INTER-SECTION AND RAPIDLY INSERTED THE HOOK FROM WHICH THE CHANDELIER HAD HUNG...















OWING TO THE HIGH COMBUSTIBILITY OF THE COSTUMES, THE DWARF HAD SCARCELY MADE AN END TO HIS SPEECH, THAN THE WORK OF VENGEANCE WAS COMPLETE... THREE CORPSES SWUNG IN THEIR CHAINS, A FETID BLACKENED, HIDEOUS, AND INDISTINGUISH-

OP-FROG DISAPPEARED THROUGH THE SKY-LIGHT... IT WAS SUPPOSED THAT TRIPPETTA, STATIONED ON THE ROOF, HAD BEEN HIS ACCOMPLICE AND TOGETHER THEY ESCAPED INTO THE NIGHT; FOR NEITHER WAS EVER SEEN AGAIN!

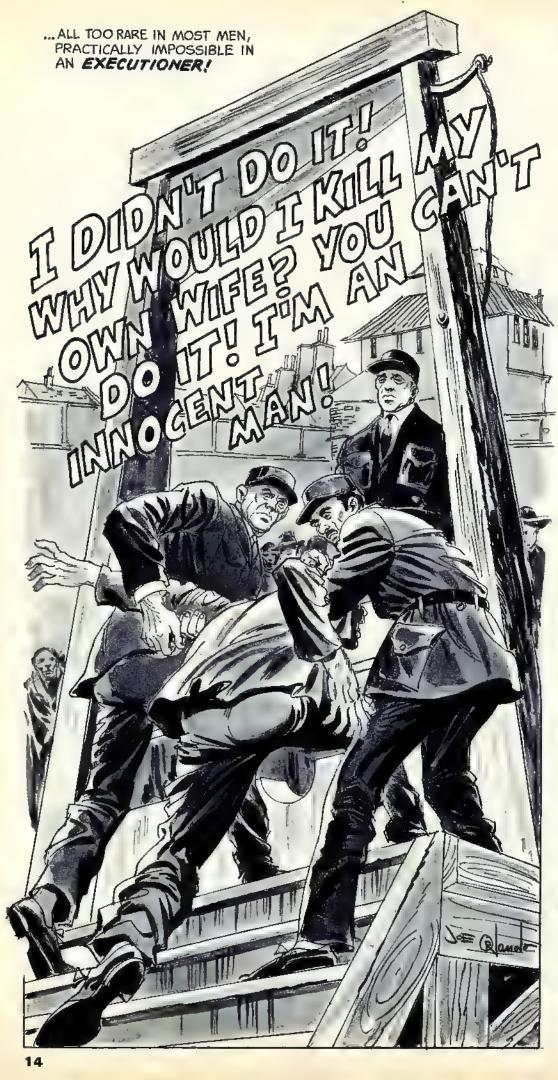




LOOKS LIKE HOP-FROG HAD SORT OF A FIERY TEMPER, EH, BOYS AND GHOULS? AT LEAST HIS LITTLE JOKE PROVIDED THE KING WITH A PRETTY HOT TIME! NOW, I BET YOU'RE, JUST BURNING TO TRY MY NEXT NEFARIOUS NUMBER...









,... UNTIL, THAT IS THE EXECUTION OF YOUNG CLAUDE REMARQUE!

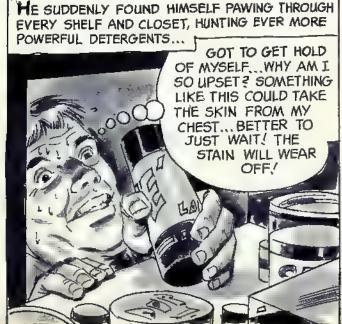
AS THE BLADE STRUCK, ARTAUD FELT A LIGHT TAP ON HIS SHIRT-FRONT. HE GLANCED DOWN TO FIND A SPLATTER OF RED, QUITE SMALL. HE STARED AT IT A LONG TIME, ANNOYED, YET SOMEHOW UNABLE TO BRING HIMSELF TO TOUCH OR DAB AT IT...

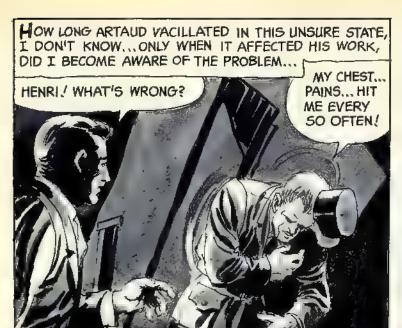






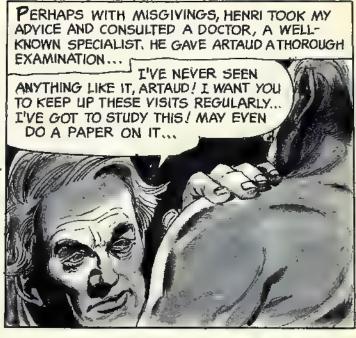


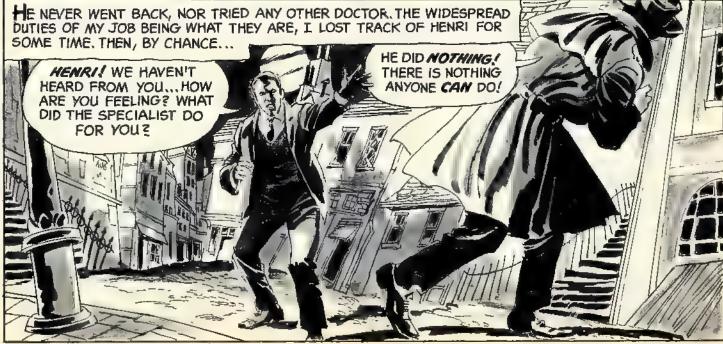
















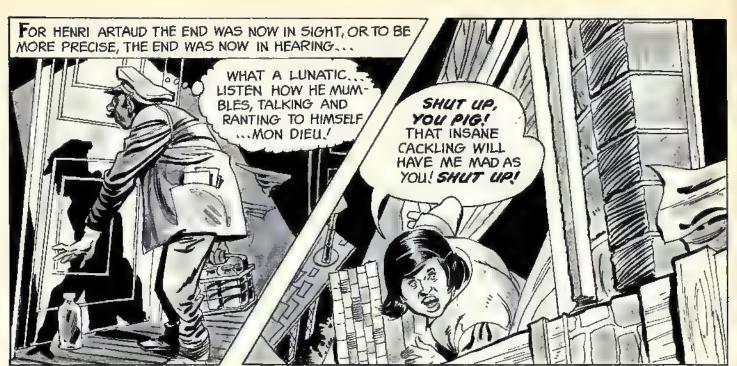
SOME CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN HIM. RUMMAGING IN THE DARKNESS OF HIS ROOM LIKE SOME HIBERNATING BEAST, WEARING TENTLIKE CLOTHING THAT STILL COULD NOT OBSCURE THE LARGE ALIEN CONTOUR OF HIS CHEST...





ARTAUD BECAME LIKE A GHOST IN THE BUILDING...
A PHANTOM FIGURE, A LIVING RUMOR, GLIMPSED ON
FLEETING OCCASIONS, A FLESH AND BLOOD SPECTRE
STILL CURSED WITH SOME DISEASED GROWTH... A
GROWTH WHICH NOW WAS SAID TO TWITCH AND MOVE!







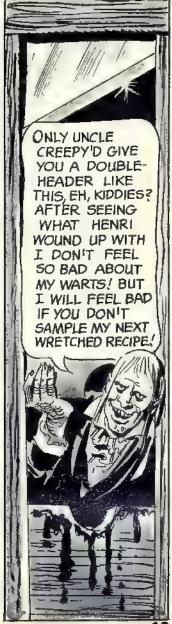
WE RACED UP THE STAIRS TO HIS ROOM, YET SOME-HOW I KNEW IT WAS A RACE LOST BEFORE WE'D LEFT THE PRISON ...

THAT CAME FROM HIS ROOM! HARDLY HAD THE REPORT FADED THAN THE ROOMING HOUSE ECHOED WITH THE LAUGHTER OF ONE GONE MAD, LAUGHTER THAT CONTINUED EVEN AS THE INSPECTOR'S FOOT CRASHED



NEITHER OF US COULD SPEAK, BUT THE HIDEOUS CACKLING WOULD HAVE DROWNED ALL WORDS ANYWAY... HENRI ARTAUD HAD PERFORMED HIS LAST EXECUTION... ON HIMSELF! DRIVEN TO THE ACT BY THE GHASTLY GROWTH ON HIS CHEST... THE MACABRE FRUIT OF THE SEED SOWED BY THE BLOODSTAIN OF AN INNOCENT MAN EXECUTED... THE

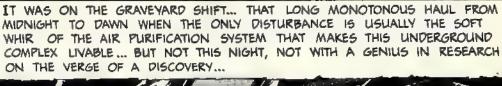




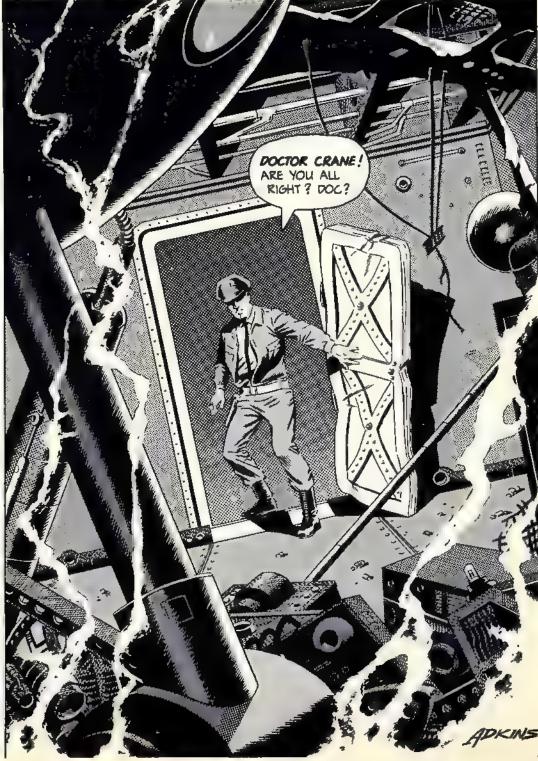
SO, FEAR FANCIERS, HERE WE STAND AGAIN ON THE THRESHOLD OF TERROR ... READY TO TAKE THE BIG STEP INTO THE UNKNOWN? THEN GET A GOOD GRIP ON YOUR NERVES AND JOIN ME AS WE PASS THROUGH ...

# THE DOORWAY!

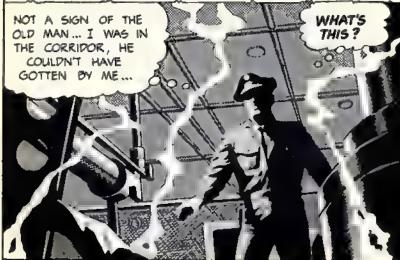
THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME LEFT... MUST TALK QUICKLY... I'M CHARLES DAMON, SECURITY GUARD AT PROJECT ZEUS, TOP PRIORITY GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL LAB... AT LEAST I WAS BEFORE THIS ALL BEGAN, BEFORE CORRIDOR 5 WAS ROCKED BY THE EXPLOSION... THE EXPLOSION THAT STARTED IT ALL...







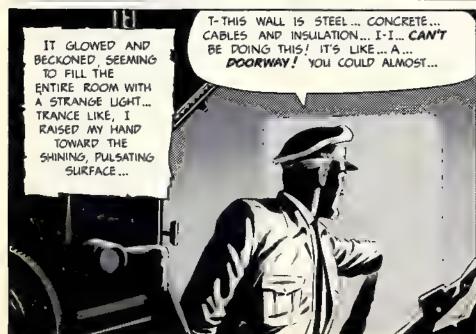
THE EXPLOSION HAD BEEN LIKE A BIG THUNDERCLAP, YET THERE WAS NO FIRE, NO SIGN OF BURNING, EXCEPT FOR A FOUL-SMELLING MIST IN THE AIR ...



THERE THE BOOK LAY AMID SCATTERED TRAP-PINGS OF TWENTIETH CENTURY SCIENCE, IN -CREDIBLY ANCIENT, IT'S YELLOWED DECAYING PAGES INVITINGLY OPENED...







MAD I FACED A MAELSTROM, THE PULL WOULD HAVE BEEN NO GREAT-ER THAN THE GLIMMERING VORTEX THAT DREW ME FORWARD...



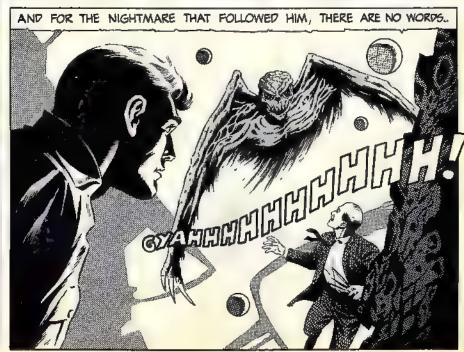
FOR AN INSTANT I WAS IN ETERNITY, IN LIMBO ... FLOATING THROUGH A VAST TIMELESS COSMOS BEYOND IMAGINA - TION, BEYOND COMPREHENSION ...



THEN I WAS THROUGH ... ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THAT DOOR WHICH SPANNED TWO WORLDS ... TWO DIMENSIONS ... TWO REALMS TOTALLY AND INALTERABLY APART, YET JOINED!







THERE WAS NO TIME TO THINK, IF MADNESS WERE TO COME IT WOULD HAVE
BEEN BY THINKING OF WHAT I SAW ...
TRAINING AND REACTION TOOK OVER
COMPLETELY...



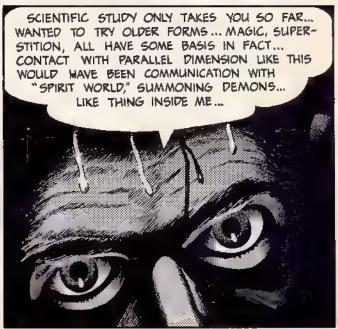
I WATCHED IN IMPOTENT HORROR AS THE THING CLAMPED ON TO THE SCREAMING SCIENTIST WITH SLIMY, GRASPING TENDRILS, LIKE SOME GROTESQUE, GIANT SLUG...













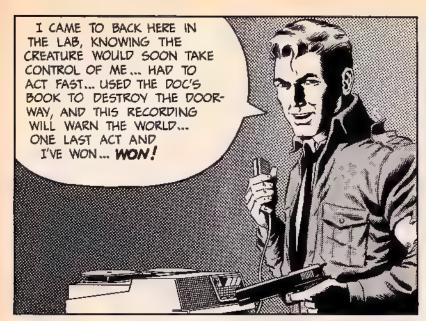


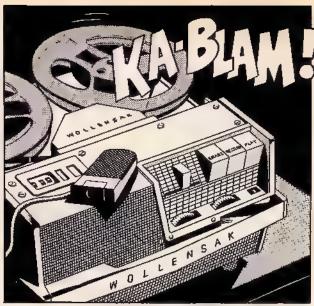




MY STRUGGLES SEEMED
DOOMED... THE SUCTIONING
TENDRILS FASTENED TIGHT
AND A WAVE OF UNCONSCIOUSNESS SWEPT OVER ME EVEN
AS WE TOPPLED INTO THE
DRAWING POWER OF THE
DIMENSIONAL DOORWAY...







THE GUN'S REPORT HAS NOT FADED BEFORE FOOT STEPS RESOUND IN THE LABORATORY...



FOLLOWED BY THE GARBLED WHIRL OF WORDS AT HIGH SPEED, VANISHING INTO THE AIR AS THE TAPE RE-THREADS THROUGH THE MACHINE...





OOPS! LOOKS LIKE DAMON WAS TOO QUICK ON THE TRIGGER... SO MANY PEOPLE DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON INSIDE THEMSELVES! WITH THE DOORWAY REOPENED, WHO CAN BE SURE! BETTER WATCH YOUR FRIENDS CAREFULLY, RABID READERS THEY'LL BE WATCHING YOU!







THE PITS! GREAT HOLES TORN IN THE EARTH OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE, WHERE THE PLAGUE VICTIMS WERE HEAPED LIKE KINDLING, THEY AND THEIR WORLDLY GOODS TO BE CONSUMED.

CONSUMED
BY THIS, THE ULTIMATE CURE, THE CLEANSING FLAMES
OF THE FIRE...



PIERRE AND JACQUES BE-GAN REMOVING THE SHROUDED FORMS FROM THE CART, EMPLOYING THE TOOLS OF THEIR TRADE, SPECIAL TOOLS THEY HAD DEVISED FOR SUCH A TASK...

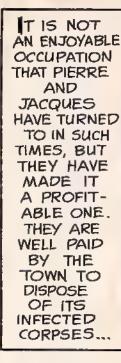
BITE YOUR
BE YOU ON
THE WRONG
END OF THE
HOOK!

BITE YOUR
TONGUE!
LORD... TO
EVEN HAVE
SUCH A
THOUGHT!

WITH GREAT CAUTION THEY PUSHED THE ROTTING RE-MAINS THAT HAD ONCE BEEN HUMAN BEINGS, FELLOW VILLAGERS, EVEN FRIENDS, TO THE EDGE OF THE SMOKING PRECIPICE...











CAREFULLY THEY PROBE
THE FEW BUNDLES THEY
HAVE NOT COMMITTED TO
THE FLAMES WITH THEIR
HOOKS, SEARCHING THE
POSSESSIONS OF THE
DEAD... THEIR WORLDLY
GOODS ASSIGNED TO
THE STERILIZING FLAMES
TO AVOID INFECTION TO
OTHERS. MUCH OF IT
CONSISTS OF CLOTHING...









WELL, GANG, LOOKS LIKE OUR
TWO BOYS HAVE AN INTERESTING RACKET... BY BEING VERY
CAREFUL TO AVOID INFECTION,
THEY SELL GOODIES TO OTHERS
FOR A NEAT (IF SOMEWHAT
MESSILY ACQUIRED) PROFIT!
COUNT ESCHELLES, BY THE
WAY, IS THEIR NINTH BUYER!
THE FIRST EIGHT DIED RATHER
SUDDENLY AFTER MAKING A
PURCHASE...

COUNT ESCHELLES IS A WEALTHY
BUT NONE TOO BRIGHT, ARISTOCRAT, WHO ENJOYS SURROUNDING HIMSELF WITH
VAST TREASURES AND
LUXURIES, HE IS BY FAR
THE RICHEST OF PIERRE AND
JACQUES'S CUSTOMERS TO
DATE, AND WOULDN'T DREAM
THAT SOMETHING MIGHT
BE WRONG...



HE EVEN FAILS TO NOTICE THE HEAVY GLOVES HIS JEWELRY DEALERS WEAR WHEN DELIVERING THE FINE MERCHANDISE



REMEMBER, MESSIEURS, AS LONG AS YOU PROVIDE LOVELY BAUBLES LIKE THESE YOU CAN COUNT ON ME AS A CUSTOMER.'



HE NEXT DAY,
AS THE TWO
MEN MAKE
THEIR MACABRE
ROUNDS, THEY
SUDDENLY
REALIZE THAT
THE LAST
STOP ON THEIR
LIST IS A
FAMILIAR
ONE...







AN HOUR AFTER PIERRE AND JACQUES RETURNED TO THE COUNT'S HOME AND BE-GAN THEIR SEARCH, PIERRE STUMBLED UPON A TRAP DOOR UNDER A SMALL RUG...

JACQUES, THIS
MUST BE IT!
THERE ARE
STAIRS ... WE'LL
NEED TORCHES!

GATHERING THE HOOKS AND SACKS OF THEIR GHASTLY TRADE, THE TWO TREASURE HUNTERS DESCENDED THE NARROW, SLIMECOATED STAIRS INTO THE DANK BLACKNESS...

JACQUES! THE ESCHELLES I-IT APPEARS ARE AN OLD TO LEAD TO FAMILY... SOME KIND ONCE THEY OF ... RULED THIS AREA! IN DUNGEON! THOSE MADE MUCH USE OF SUCH A PLACE!

MON DIEU, WHAT A PLACE!
I'VE HEARD TALES OF
TORTURE AND HORROR
THAT WENT ON THEN...
IT'S GOOD THE COUNT
WAS INTERESTED ONLY
IN JEWELS!



IN VAIN THEY SEARCHED EMPTY CELLS, UNTIL FINALLY THEY CAME TO A LARGE METAL DOOR AT THE CORRIDOR'S END, SWINGING IT OPEN, THEY STEPPED INTO A SMALL ENCLOSED ROOM, REVEALING...

THE TREASURES! MORE
THAN I EVER DREAMED...
NO WONDER HE TOOK SUCH
CARE TO KEEP US FROM IT!

REMEMBER IT'S INFESTED WITH THE PLAGUE...BUT WITH OUR HOOKS AND A LITTLE CAUTION, WE CAN RETIRE WITH ENORMOUS



Painstakingly, in the cramped quarters, THEY BEGAN THE SLOW TASK OF EMPTY-ING THE COUNT'S TREASURE ROOM ...

WHAT A JOKE ON COUNT ESCHELLES! HE HOPED TO HAVE HIS REVENGE DENY-ING US HIS WEALTH, BUT LAST LAUGH! HA!

IF ONLY (COUGH!) THIS CURSED CELL WASN'T SO DRAFTY...





IN THE TORCH'S FLICKERING LIGHT, PIERRE HURLED HIMSELF AGAINST THE DOOR, ONLY TO FIND IT DID NOT MOVE ...

LOCKED! CAN'T BE DON'T BE ALARMED, PIERRE, I'VE INSIDE! BROUGHT CHISELS AND A HAMMER ...







THE SOUND GREW LOUDER AS THE SIZE OF THE ROOM BEGAN TO STEADILY, UNRELENT-INGLY SHRINK ... PRICELESS JEWELRY, VALU-ABLE GEMS BEGAN TO SHIFT AND SCATTER...



WALLS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO COMPLETELY
CLOSE...THERE'LL STILL BE
ROOM FOR US!

B-BUT,
JACQUES...

JACQUES...

WAIT! WE'LL STILL LAUGH AT THE COUNT ..

THE TREASURE! THERE'S SO MUCH OF IT THE

LOUDER AND LOUDER THE NOISE GREW,
BUILDING UP TO A CRESCENDO OF DEAFENING PROPORTIONS...THE PUSHING AND SHIFTING OF THE TREASURED PILES BECAME SWIFT
AND FRANTIC...

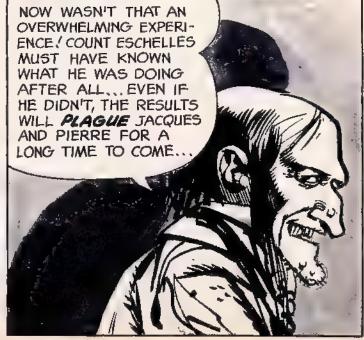


BEFORE THE WALLS STOP ... SWALLOWED BY THIS PLAGUE-INFESTED MASS!



THEIR HYSTERICAL SCREAMS WERE LOST IN THE ROARING RUMBLE OF THE APPROACHING WALLS, COVERING THEM IN A TIDE OF GLEAMING JEWELRY... FLASHING BAUBLES FONDLED AND ADMIRED BY THE COUNT... FABULOUS GEMS INFECTED WITH THE DISEASE THAT HAD KILLED THEIR OWNER... A SPARKLING SEA OF THE BLACK DEATH!





"AT FIRST, I DON'T SEE ANYTHING EXCEPT THE WOODS AROUND ME, BUT I SENSE SOMETHING ... SOMETHING HUMAN! THEN THE GIRL APPEARS, WALKING WITH QUICK NERVOUS STEPS ... "



"THE SMELL OF FEAR IS ON HER, GROWING AS THE NIGHT WIND MAKES THE TREES AND BRANCHES CREAK AND MOAN ..."



"HER HEAD DARTS FIRST THIS WAY, THEN THAT... STARTING AT EVERY SHAPOW, EACH RATTLE OF DRY LEAVES SWEPT ACROSS THE GROUND..."



"I CAN ALMOST HEAR HER HEART POUNDING... SHE HASN'T SEEN ME YET, BUT SHE STARTS TO RUN, SUDDENLY SURE OF DANGER NEARBY...

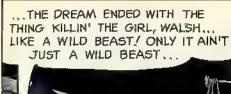


"THEN WHEN IT IS TOO LATE, SHE LOOKS TO THE



ART BY STEVE DITKO/SCRIPT BY ARCHIE GOODWIN



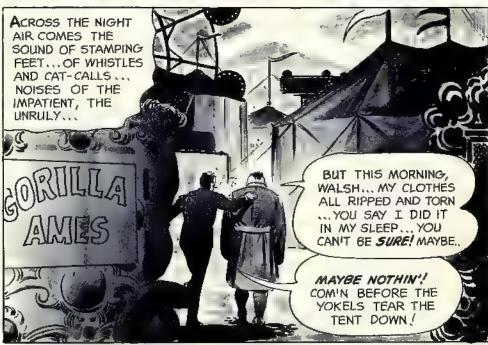


















SHOULD'YE

QUIT WHEN I

QUIT?!! ARE YOU NUTS?? WE'RE UNDER CONTRACT FOR THIS TOUR ... IN DEBT FOR EQUIPMENT... ALREADY ADVERTISED IN CITIES ALONG THE ROAD...

SAW A SPECIALIST IN TOWN TODAY BOUT THOSE PAINS I'VE BEEN GETTING... SAYS IT'S MY HEART... SAYS IF I KEEP FIGHTIN' THEY'LL KEEP GETTIN' WORSE!

WALSH, I AIN'T CRAZY 'BOUT THIS CARNIVAL BUSINESS ANY-HOW, NOW IT COULD KILL ME ... NEVER BEEN MUCH ON THINKIN', BUT THERE MUST BE SOMEWAY AROUND IT... BIG LUG LIKE

YOU WITH A

BUM TICKER...

AWRIGHT, AWRIGHT! I'LL FIGURE
SOMETHIN' OUT!





AND WITHIN A WEEK, WALSH HAD THE ANSWER ...

7-THE DOC? HE'S NOTHIN' BUT A VET FOR THE SHOW ANIMALS... AND A RUMMY TO BOOT! HE WAS ALSO A BRILLIANT SURGEON BEFORE THE AUTHORI-TIES NAILED HIM FOR UNORTHO-DOX PRACTICES...TRUST ME!



WITH A BAD HEART, CERTAIN TO KILL IN A FEW YEARS, WHAT WAS THERE TO LOSE?

THIS SEDATIVE WILL < PUT YOU OUT IN A FEW MINUTES... LET'S GET YOU IN TO THE OPERATING TABLE...

THERE'S NO SWEAT, AMES! I WOULDN'T RISK THIS IF I THOUGHT ANYTHING'D GO WRONG...



T-THE GORILLA ...
THE ONE ... THEY HAD TO SHOOT ...
THIS MORNING ...

THIS MORNING ...

THIS MORNING ...

THE ONE ... THEY HE STILL HAS A FINE, HEALTHY ...

THIS MORNING ...

THE GRIP OF THE SEDATIVE WAS IMMEDIATE, ALLOWING ONLY ONE

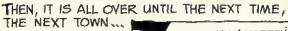


THE SOUND OF THE GONG DRIVES AMES'S TORTURED THOUGHTS BACK TO THE PRESENT... BACK TO THE GLARE OF OVERHEAD LIGHTS AND THE POUNDING LEATHER... HARD WILD PUNCHES RAIN IN ON HIM TO BE



HE FIGHTS WITHOUT STYLE, WITHOUT TECHNIQUE, SLASHING AND JABBING WITH AN INSTINCTIVE FURY... AN ANIMAL VICIOUSNESS THAT COMES NOT FROM TRAINING, BUT... FROM THE HEART!





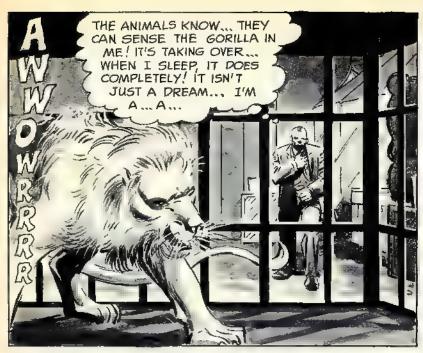
HERE'S YOUR CUT! YOU SHOULD GIVE THOSE LOCAL BOYS MORE OF CHANCE BEFORE FINISHING THEM ... WE'RE GONNA RUN OUT OF TAKERS!

SOMETHIN' HAPPENS
TO ME IN THE
RING, WALSH...
JUST LIKE IN
THOSE DREAMS!
I GO WILD...
C-CAN'T HELP IT..
EVER SINCE THE

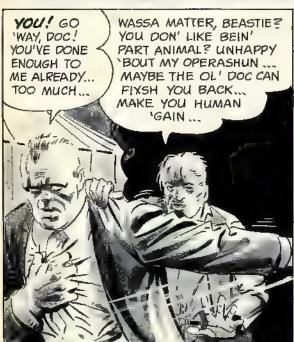








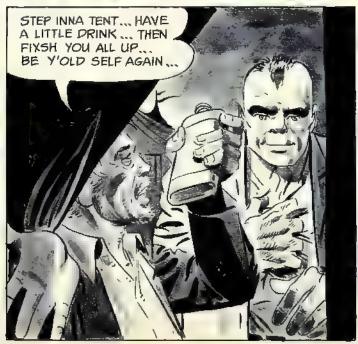












THE CRIES OF THE MENAGERIE BEASTS ECHO ABOUT THE NOW DESERTED CARNIVAL GROUNDS FALLING ON UNINTERESTED EARS...





RELUCTANT TO BELIEVE HE MIGHT LOSE HIS MEAL TICKET, WALSH HAD RECHECKED AMES'S CONDITION WITH THE HEART SPECIALIST...

B-BUT YOUR X-RAYS SHOW HIS TICKER'S OKAY! THE BIG APE LIED...

PHYSICALLY OKAY... SUB-CONSCIOUSLY, HE HATES BOXING. TRIES TO ESCAPE IT WITH ATTACKS INDUCED BY HIS OWN MIND... PSYCHOSOMATIC, BUT NO LESS FATAL...ONLY BY QUITTING CAN HE BE



YET THE VERY CAUSE OF AMSES'S CONDITION SUGGESTED A CURE...

IF HE CONVINCED HIMSELF
HE'S GOT A BUM HEART, HE
CAN CONVINCE HIMSELF HE'S
GOT A NEW HEART... THE
HEART OF AN ANIMAL
MORE OF A FIGHTER THAN
AMES COULD EVER BE!

THE CUT ON HIS CHEST'LL LOOK

JUST LIKE AN INCISION WAS MADE ... FAR AS HE'LL EVER KNOW, I DID OPERATE ON HIM TONIGHT!



A CURE THAT WOULD PREVENT HIS EVER TRYING TO

FROM TIME
TO TIME I'LL GIVE HIM A
SHOT OF THIS ... THE LUG'LL
THINK IT'S POST-OPERATIONAL
TREATMENT! ACTUALLY IT
PUTS HIM IN A TRANCELIKE
STATE, OPEN TO SUGGESTION.

AND THE THINGS
I'M GONNA SUGGEST'LL HAVE HIM
CONVINCED HE'S
MORE APE THAN
MAN! HE WON'T
BE FIT FOR
ANYTHING BUT
THIS RACKET!



RIPPING HIS CLOTHING AFTER THE DREAMS I SUGGESTED REALLY DID THE TRICK ON THE POOR BOOB...







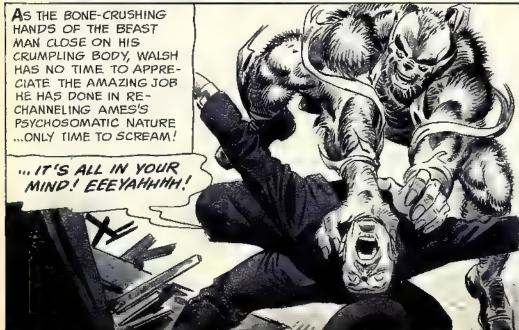
















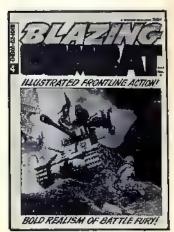
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STATE .....ZIP CODE .....

AH, NOW, FRIGHT FANS, WHAT DOES OUR HORRORSCOPE SHOW IN STORE FOR US ?... A VISIT TO RENAISSANCE ITALY, SCENE OF MANY TERRIFYING TRANSACTIONS, WHERE A CERTAIN GENTLEMAN IS ABOUT TO DISCOVER THAT WHEN MAKING SATANIC PACTS, OFTEN THERE'S ...

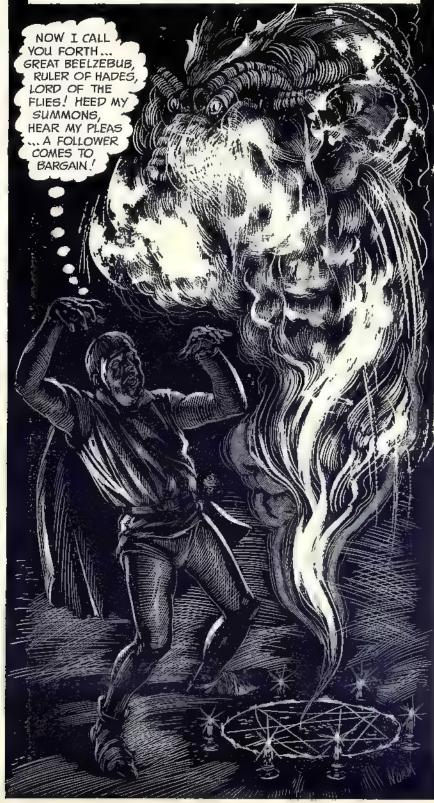
## THE DEVIL TO PAY!

POWER, LIKE EXOTIC FOOD, IS AN ACQUIRED TASTE. A TASTE WHICH WHEN NURTURED, EASILY BECOMES AN OBSESSION... FOR LUGERIO, DUKE OF CORONA, THE POWER INHERENT IN HIS POSITION HAD LONG NURTURED A CRAVING FAR BEYOND THE FULFILLMENT A SMALL DUCHY PROVIDES...

WHY SHOULD I SETTLE FOR THE SHABBY CONFINES OF MY OWN DUKEDOM? I SHOULD RULE MORE ... MUCH MORE ... AND I CAN! IF MY ARMY'S TOO SMALL TO GAIN IT FOR ME, THERE ARE OTHER WAYS... DARKER WAYS...



A MAN OBSESSED IS A MAN WHO RISKS EVERYTHING... AND WITHIN THE DARKENED BOWELS OF HIS CASTLE, AFTER YEARS OF STUDY AND PRACTICE IN THE BLACK ARTS, LUGERIO WAS PREPARING TO DO JUST THAT...





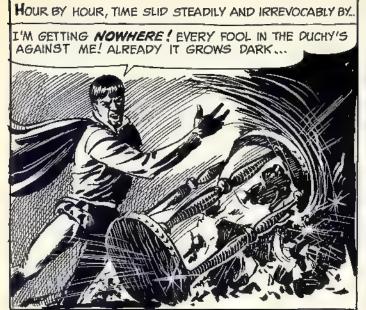






















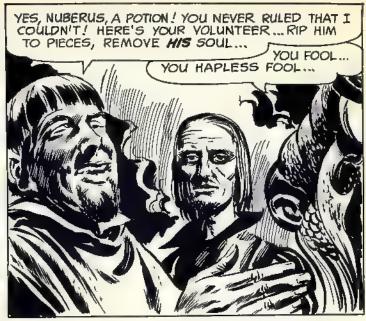




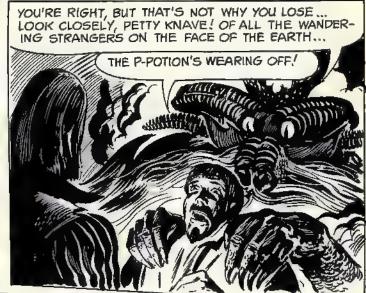












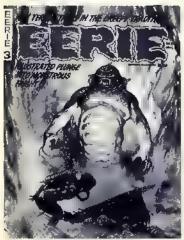


HMMMMM...
MAYBE LUGERIO
SHOULD'VE
SERVED A BETTER
BRAND OF WINE,
OR PERHAPS
PEMON RUM!
EITHER WAY I
GUESS HE'D STILL
WIND UP RAISING
THE DEVIL!



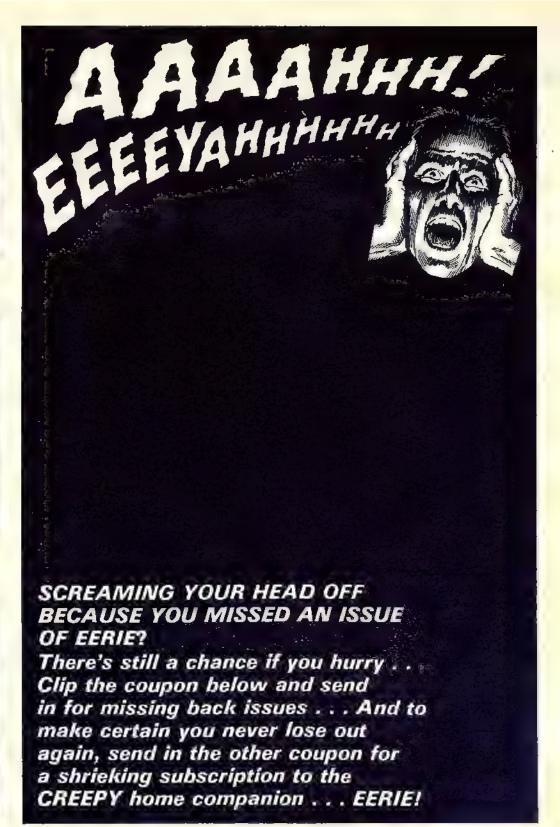


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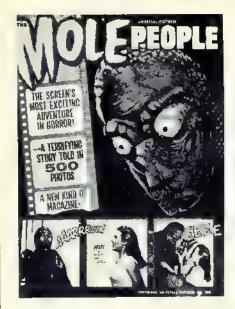
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ABOVE THEM, THE GULLS GAVE PIERCING SHRIEKS... BENEATH THEIR FEET, THE TIDE RHYTHMICALLY ROCKED THE STRANDED VESSEL, CREAKING AND MOANING...



MANUEL NEVER FINISHED. BOTH MEN WHIRLED AT THE NEW SOUND...A DULL, HOLLOW, ROLLING ...THUMP AFTER THUMP...



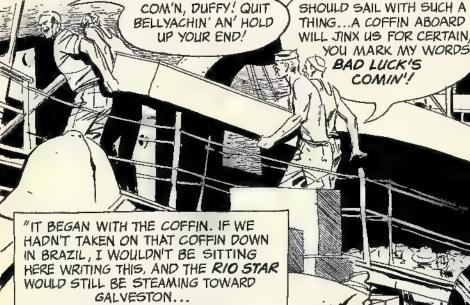


MANUEL SHRUGGED OFF HIS FEAR. THE TWO MEN MOVED ON CAUTIOUSLY, MAKING THEIR WAY TO THE BRIDGE...THE DOOR WAS SEALED FROM THE INSIDE. AFTER SOME BATTERING, IT BURST OPEN.



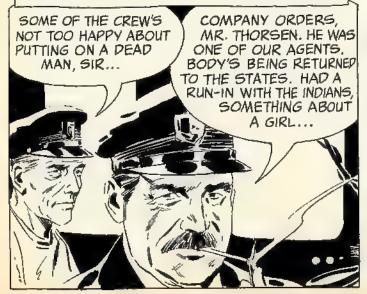








"DID I REALLY SENSE SOMETHING EVEN THEN, OR WAS IT THE GRUMBLING OF AN OLD HAND LIKE DUFFY THAT SENT ME TO CAPTAIN LORCA?"















"THE LAUGHTER STOPPED SHORT AS THE HATCH

"NO ONE SAID ANY MORE, BUT IT WAS I WHO FOUND THE FIRE AXE AND PUT IT TO THE HELLISH COFFIN FROM WHICH DUFFY'S DEATH HAD CREPT FORTH..."



"THE MORNING SUN WAS RISING AS I RACED TOPSIDE
TO WAKE THE CAPTAIN, REVULSION SWIMMING WITHIN
ME. THERE WAS NO NEED FOR ME TO GO TO HIS CABIN.."

CAPTAIN
LORCA!

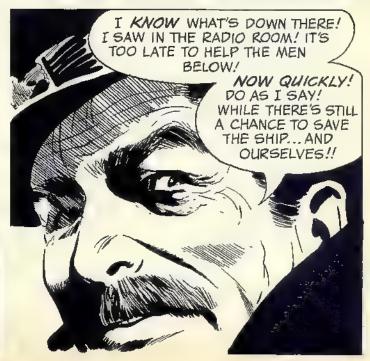
COWARDS!
PESERTERS!

CAPTAIN! THOSE
ARE OUR MEN...
WHAT'RE THEY DOING?
THERE ARE SHARKS
IN THOSE WATERS!

COULDN'T STOP THEM...THEY
HEARD THE SCREAMS AND
GOT TO THE RADIO SHACK
BEFORE ME! THEY SAW WHAT
HAPPENED...THEY KNOW
WHAT'S WRONG!







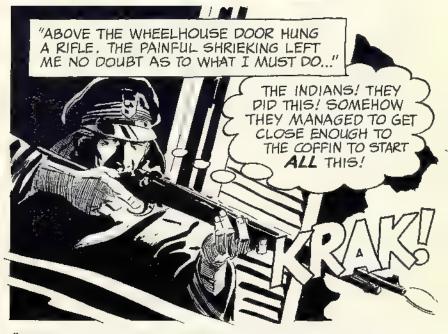
"MUTING MY EARS TO THE HORRENDOUS SHRIEKS BELOW DECK, I RUSHED TO COMPLETE MY TASK, SLAMMING HATCH AFTER HATCH...AND SO PASSED THE RADIO ROOM. ALVAREZ HAD LOCATED THE TROUBLE; THE LAST THING HE DID ON EARTH!"



"WITH ALL REAR HATCHES SECURED, I CLAMBERED TO THE BRIDGE EXPECTING TO MEET THE CAPTAIN...THE SOUND OF GUNSHOTS TOLD ME HE'D BEEN UNABLE TO GET ALL THE BOW HATCHES..."

"THE SCREAMS WERE NOT THE END WITH THE RISING SUN TO ITS BACK, SOMETHING CAME STAGGERING ACROSS THE DECK, VAGUELY MAN-LIKE BUT WITH A SKIN OF SHINING WRITHING BLACKNESS...YET THE VOICE, THE HIDEOUS TORTURED VOICE...WAS THAT OF THE CAPTAIN!"





"THE WHEELHOUSE IS COMPLETELY SEALED OFF. I HAVE SET THE SHIP ON A COURSE FOR SHORE. THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE I WILL MAKE IT, YET STILL I WRITE...IT TAKES MY MIND OFF...OFF WHAT'S WAITING OUT THERE! BUT NOW SOMETHING OCCURS TO ME...SOMETHING..."



MANUEL CLOSED THE BOOK.
THERE WAS NOTHING MORE TO
READ. THE SUN BEAT THROUGH
THE GLASS OF THE WHEELHOUSE,
ITS HEAT MAGNIFIED, YET MANUEL
FOUND HIMSELF SHIVERING...



HE SHIFTED UNCOMFORTABLY AND SOMETHING CRUNCHED UNDERFOOT...FOR THE FIRST TIME, MANUEL BECAME AWARE OF WHAT LITTERED THE FLOOR OF THE WHEELHOUSE...



SUDDENLY MANUEL UNDERSTOOD EVERYTHING...HE FULLY UNDER-STOOD THE CREEPING HORROR THAT HAD TURNED THE FREIGHTER RIO STAR INTO A SHIP OF HELL!





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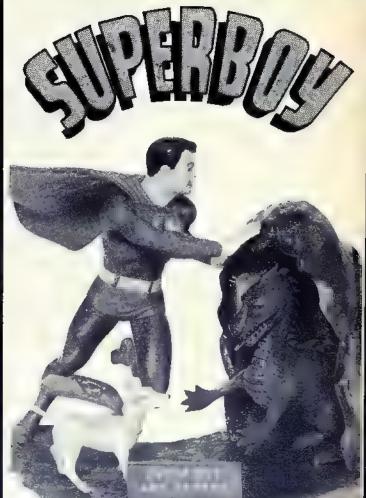
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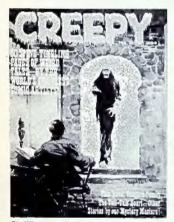
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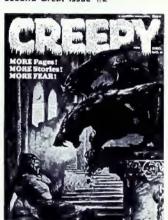
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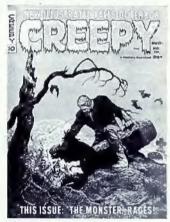
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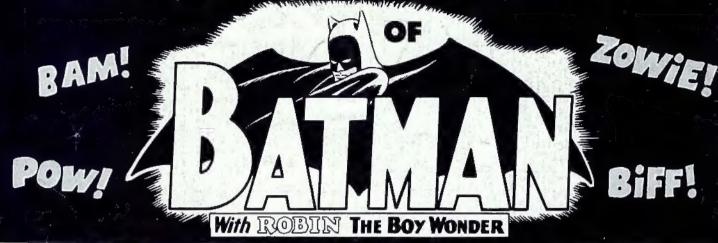
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### **CHAPTER 1—The Electrical Brain**

The Balman (Lewis Wilson), and his young assistant, Robin, the Bay Wander (Dauglas Croft), hit on the trail of an enemy soboleas ting, when Bruce's girl friend, Linda (Shirley Patterson), asks the pair to help her fran her uncle, Martin Warren (Gus Glasmire), from the clutches of the ring. The Balman learns that the ring plans to steal the city's radium supply from the city hospital, and hurries there to prevent the theft. A terrific fight ensues, and the attempted robbery is thwarted. Huwever, during the battle, the Balman is forced to the roof, and staggered by the rain of blows poured on him, is finally sent reeling over the ledge into space!

### **CHAPTER 2—The Bat Cave**

The Balman lands unhurt on a painter's scaffolding, and returning to the roof, captures one of the gangsters with Robin's aid. Back at the Batman's hideout, the Bot Cave, the gangster reveals that a Dr. Dake (J. Carrol Naish) directs the ring from the House of the Open Door, and discover Linda a prisoner there. Hooking ropes over electric cobles suspended between buildings, the Balman and Robin climb to the room where she is imprisoned and avercome a number of the mobisters. Then carrying the uncancious Linda, the Batman slowly mackes his way back over the cables, One of the gangsters breaks a wire and fourthes the row and against the cables. Sparks and flames engulf the pair. Suddenly the Batman loses his balance and he and Linda plunge into space!

### CHAPTER 3—The Living Corpse

The Batman leaps from the car as it plunges over the cliff. At home, an assignment from Washington awaits him. He is to protect the new Lockwood airplane meter. Two of the Lockwood men are abducted by Daka and transformed into Zambies. Just before a test flight, the Batman secrets himself in the plane. No sogner is he hidden, than the new Zambies enter the plane dressed

in pilots' clothes. Following Daka's radio directions, the Zombies take the plane into the air. Suddenly the doctor sees the Botman on his television screen and orders the Zombies to attack. Out of control, the plane altracts attention and suffers a direct hit, and crashes to earth!

### CHAPTER 4—Poison Peril

The Zombies are killed in the crack-up, but the Batman miraculously escapes injury. Back in tow, Coltan, (Charles Middleton), an old friend of Linda's uncle, is searching for him. He has discovered a radium mine. Daka learns of Coltan's mine and attempts to lure him to an old smelter, in order to force him to reveal the mine's location. The Balman learns of Daka's ruse, and takes Coltan's place at the rendezvous. He and Robin estack the gangstet and a battle royal follows. In the melee, an acid vat is tipped over, and a stream of acid hits an exposed high-lession wire. There is a binding flash. Debris and timber fall, burying the Batman!

### **CHAPTER 5— Executioner Strikes**

Robin raises the trap-door and pulls his pal to safety. Linda, now a Zombie, writes a note to the Batman asking him to meet her at an isolated building. Though suspecting a ruse, the Batman goes there. Daka's men overpower him and pack him into a crate. The crate is then tossed into a cave of ravenous alligators, it crashes down on the beasts sending them into frenzied attack!

### CHAPTER 6-Doom of the Rising Sun

Robin comes to the Batman's rescue. He knocks out one of the gangsters and frees his fighting friend. The pair crash into Dake's inner sanctum, and after a terrific battle, overpower Daka and his men. The Batman orders the dactor to return Linda and her uncle from their Zombie state to normality. After doing this, Daka, makes a break for freedom, and is accidentally plunged into the alligator pit. As the police orrive to take the gang into custody, the Batman and Robin disappear—their work, for the present, is done!

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